



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/004,979	12/05/2001	Michael F. Laub	17712 (MHM 13238US02)	9236

7590 01/08/2003

Tyco Electronics Corporation
307 Constitution Drive, MS R20/2B
Menlo Park, CA 94025

EXAMINER

PAUMEN, GARY F

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2833

DATE MAILED: 01/08/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.
10/004,979

Applicant(s)
Laub et al

Examiner
Gary Paumen

Art Unit
2833



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Dec 12, 2002
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) 12-16 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 17-19 and 24-31 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 6-8, 10, and 20-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4, 5, 9, and 11 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on Dec 2, 2002 is/are a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 1.7.2(a)).
*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). 2 6) ☐ Other: _____

Art Unit: 2833

1. Applicant's election with traverse of Group I in Paper No. 5 is acknowledged. The traversal is on the ground(s) that the method of Group II is not a separate invention. This is not found persuasive because the invention of Group I could be used in a different method than that of Group II for the reasons given in the restriction requirement.

The requirement is still deemed proper and is therefore made FINAL.

2. Claims 12-16 stand withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Applicant timely traversed the restriction (election) requirement in Paper No. 5.

3. Claims 4-7 are objected to because of the following informalities: in claim 4, line 2, "contact" should be deleted. In claim 5, line 2, "a" and "each" are conflicting; line 3, "an" should be -- the --. In claim 6, line 3, -- the -- should be inserted after "between"; line 4, "a" should be -- the --. In claim 7, line 4, -- to -- should be inserted after "secured". Appropriate correction is required.

4. Claims 20-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Each of these claims recites the housing or portion thereof, which conflicts with the preamble which limits the claims to the contact per se.

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

Art Unit: 2833

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claims 1-3 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by either Wright '712 or Verhoeven.

7. Claims 7 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Wright '712.

8. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Verhoeven.

9. Claims 17-19, 24-26 and 27-31 are allowed.

10. Claims 4, 5, 9 and 11 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

11. Claims 20-23 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

12. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: none of the prior art of record discloses or teaches the claimed slot(s) in combination with the rest of the claimed subject matter.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

Art Unit: 2833

fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

13. The other references cited on Form 892 disclose similar cutting contacts.

14. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gary Paumen whose telephone number is (703) 308-1414.



Gary Paumen
Primary Examiner

gfp

January 6, 2003